DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 223 367 PS 013 224

AUTHOR Hepworth, H. Philip
TITLE Trends and Comparisons in Canadian Child Welfare Services.
PUB DATE [80]
NOTE 56p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Reports - Research/Technical (143)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Adoption; *Child Welfare; Comparative Analysis; *Employment Patterns; *Expenditures; Foreign Countries; *Population Trends; *Residential Care; Tables (Data); Welfare Services
IDENTIFIERS *Canada

ABSTRACT

Developments in Canadian child welfare services during the last 20 years are discussed in this paper. The discussion is based on data gathered from provincial annual reports and public accounts, Statistics Canada publications and Health and Welfare Canada reports on homes for special care, and from the author's earlier study of the child welfare services in the period between 1959-77. First, the author provides an overview of the general population trends in the welfare services that took place during the last 20 years, and indicates some characteristics of specific provincial child welfare services. Then the author discusses and compares the child welfare services in the Canadian provinces and territories with respect to adoption procedures, residential care, staff employment and child welfare expenditures. (MP)

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TRENDS AND COMPARISONS IN CANADIAN

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

H. Philip Hepworth, Associate Professor,
University of Regina/Coordinator, Policy Development,
Social Service Development and Grants Directorate,
Health and Welfare Canada.

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Keywords: Canadian child welfare, adoptions, residential child care, child welfare employment, child welfare expenditures, child welfare statistics

Trends and Comparisons in Canadian Child Welfare Services

Introduction

In this paper I discuss developments in Canadian child welfare services during the last twenty years using data available in provincial annual reports and public accounts, in Statistics Canada publications and Health and Welfare Canada reports on homes for special care, and miscellaneous information gathered for my earlier study (Hepworth, 1978) of the child welfare services in the period 1959 to 1977, which in some cases I have been able to update to the year 1981. The period covered includes the introduction of federal cost-sharing of child welfare services in the 1966 Canada Assistance Plan. (Canada, 1966) I will first provide an overview of the last twenty years and indicate some general characteristics of specific provincial child welfare services. Then I will discuss in turn adoptions, residential care, employment in the child welfare services, and child welfare expenditures. In addition to an updating of some of the key variables in my earlier study, the sections on employment and expenditures are new, the discussion of residential care goes beyond my previous analysis, and the section on adoptions qualifies some of my previous findings.

General Trends

My earlier study revealed a number of persistent statistical differences between provinces even though the total child welfare popultation in each province appeared to follow demographic trends quite closely. (Hepworth, 1978) For example, the Canadian child population grew steadily during the 1960's after the historical peaks in births in 1959. Illegitimate births continued to rise after 1959 and eventually reached a peak in 1970. At the same time admissions to care increased

steadily until 1969/70 and the in-care population also peaked in 1969/70. Adoptions also peaked in 1970/71. Other evidence also indicated that a fairly high proportion of children in care was illegitimate. Updating the earlier statistics has tended to confirm these trends, though as I discuss elsewhere in this paper it should be noted that the character of adoption has changed as a larger proportion of relative adoptions is now occurring.

Generally a higher percentage of the child population is in care today than was the case in 1959. For the four census years 1961, 1966, 1971, and 1976 the proportion of the child population aged 0-14 years in care was 0.94, 1.27, 1.44 and 1.35 respectively, and 0.76, 0.99, 1.08 and 0.96 respectively for the 0-19 years age group. For the years 1977/78, 1978/79, 1979/80 and 1980/81 the percentage was for the 0.14 year age group, 1.32, 1.38, 1.36 and 1.35 respectively, and for the 0-19 year age group 0.94, 0.97, 0.95 and 0.95 respectively. (See Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4) I should add here that the figures included for these most recent years for Quebec are estimates. The high provinces have been Quebec, Alberta (since the mid 1970's) and British Columbia. The two territories are also high, but are a special case, in terms of the population they draw on, and the expenditures incurred, and are therefore not discussed in this paper. Ontario and Newfoundland have been low provinces on a consistent basis.

Historically both Ontario and British Columbia have had fairly highly developed child welfare services, in terms of legislation, delivery arrangements, statistics and so on, but the proportion of the child population in care in each province has remained consistently different (See Table 4).

By contrast, Newfoundland has only been able to regionalize its services on a systematic basis in the last 15 years, yet has a consistently low ratio of children in care. Underdeveloped accessibility and/or outreach capability may be a partial explanation for the low in-care percentage in this province in care or there may be other explanations related to lower rates of illegitimacy, family dissolution and so on.

There is some evidence which suggests that Newfoundland has attempted to tackle the issue of poverty affecting children directly, which in turn has depressed the in-care figures for that province. For example there were 1294 children in care at the end of 1978/79, whereas there were a further 1457, who were not wards, but were living with relatives who received financial assistance for their care. A further 627 children were receiving protection services in their own homes, but were not receiving financial assistance. (See Table 3)

Larger family size appears to be associated with children having contact with the child welfare services. For example the number of children involved in protection cases in Ontario is consistently higher than the average number of children per family in the general population. (Hepworth, 1978, p.42) But while the Quebec study, Opération 30,000 (Quebec, 1979, p.78, (c)) confirms this general finding concerning family size the report qualifies it, by noting that delinquents tend to come from large families, that protection cases come from families of average size, and that child abuse cases come from small families (small being two or less children, average three to five children, and large families 6 children or more). The Quebec study also notes that larger families tend to occur in rural areas. (Québec, 1979, p.110, (c)) In addition the proportion of children in care who are

orphans is higher in rural areas than in other parts of Quebec, between 5 and 10 per cent compared with 4 per cent for the whole province. (Québec, 1979, annexe Statistique, tableaux A-49, A-50, (b)) In the total Quebec child welfare population 11 per cent have a deceased father and 12 per cent have a deceased mother. The Quebec data thus build up a picture of general family vulnerability, without dealing directly with the issue of low income. (Québec, 1979, annex Statistique, tableaux B-13-1, B-13-2 (b))

The Quebec data are comparable with the British Columbia data on reasons for admission. (Hepworth, 1978, p.59) Some 16 per cent of children in care in Quebec are reported to have been abandoned, compared to 8 per cent of admissions in British Columbia in 1976/77; in the latter case, however nearly 43 per cent of admissions are said to be due to parent failure/neglect.

Adoptions

There have been a number of major social and demographic developments during the last twenty years which have affected the number and type of adoptions in Canada, and which must be taken into account in any attempt to interpret trends and to make preliminary comparisons between provinces. The number of adoptions peaked in 1970/71 at the same time as the highest recorded number of illegitimate births occurred, and when also there was the highest number of children in care.

Provincial child welfare services have played a major role in adoption services both as placement agencies and as supervisors of relative and private adoptions. However the length of contact with adoptive families after a child is placed has been reduced over the last thirty years from two years to six months in most provinces. Along with a decline in the number of illegitimate births after the early 1970's,

there has been an increased willingness on the part of unmarried mothers to keep their babies, and this trend has to some extent been encouraged by the social service departments themselves. In Quebec nine single mothers out of ten in 1974/75 were keeping their babies. (Québec, 1976, (a)) The increased availability of social assistance may also have been a factor here. The child welfare services have offset the decline in the number of young children available for adoption by switching their attention to older and "special needs" or "hard to place" children. However another development has served to further reduce the role of the child welfare services in the adoption field, namely the increase in relative adoptions, whether due to the marriage of unmarried parents, and/or the remarriage of parents. Just under 40 per cent of adoptions (in Quebec 25 per cent in 1977/78, 23.5 per cent in 1978/79 and 21.7 per cent in 1979/80) in recent years have been the result of child welfare placements compared with 60 per cent or more in the 15 years prior to 1976/77. (See Tables 5 - 10)

It remains the case however that child welfare placements are a relatively sensitive indicator of rises or falls in the number of illegitimate births, and as already indicated, an indirect reflection of illegitimate births also comes through relative adoptions. In Quebec the proportion of legitimate children adopted rose from 7.1 per cent in 1970/71 to 27.4 per cent in 1976/77, but the predominant influence of illegitimacy on the character of adoption remains self-evident. (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 149-156) Statistics for more recent years in Quebec correspond to sections of the child protection legislation and do not give a separate figure for illegitimacy, but the overall picture appears to remain the same. (The proportion of legitimate children adopted in 1979/80 was about 40 per cent)

When I reported on adoptions in the period 1959/60 - 1976/77 in my earlier study I noted what appeared to be the increased frequency of

adoption as a proportion of the relevant age groups. (Hepworth, 1978, p.138) As a proportion of the child population under 1 year the increase was from 2.7 per cent in 1959/60 to 4.7 per cent in 1976/77, and for the population under five from 0.6 per cent to 0.9 per cent. The comparable increase for the under 15 age group was from 0.22 per cent to 0.28 per cent. In 1977/78, 1978/79 and 1979/80 the percentages for the under 15 age group have been 0.26, 0.29 and 0.24 respectively. (See Table 9) In other words the proportion of the child population now being adopted is comparable to the situation 20 years ago, and has not continued to increase as I had expected even though there have been many social and demographic changes in the meantime, for example the growth in the number of relative adoptions, which might have maintained the increase.

In going on to make comparisons between provinces it is necessary to note some of the possible differences in the way adoption statistics are recorded, published or become available. There are usually two primary sources, child welfare statistics and vital statistics; in some cases one series provides more detail than the other. In addition, vital statistics data often refer to events over a number of years and may include adoptions completed outside the province in question. Child welfare statistics are more likely to refer solely to the year in question and may or may not include adoptions completed outside the province. It should be said here that these problems are not easily resolved, and would probably require case by case analysis in each province over a period of years. In the meantime we must make the best of what we have.

This qualification of the type of statistics that are available is needed, since it may obviously affect rank ordering between provinces. For example in 1979/80 Manitoba child welfare sources report 732 completed adoptions, whereas 1030 adoption completions are reported in vital statistics sources in the same period. For the sake of consistency with my earlier study I have chosen to use the vital statistics figure in Manitoba in Table 5, but the child welfare figure is also useful, as it is broken down into the type of placement made (507 child welfare placements, 206 parent or relative adoptions, 13 private adoptions and 6 other). (See Table 8) In fact Manitoba (using the vital statistics figures) leads all provinces in the proportion of the 0-14 year age group adopted in the period since 1961/62. Its average is 0.41 per cent or 4.1 children per thousand. During the past twenty years Manitoba's percentage has ranged between 0.22 and 0.56. No other province has experienced such a wide range. British Columbia, for example, has had an average of 0.32 and a range of 0.29 to 0.38, and overall has ranked fourth. Alberta, ranked second, has had an average of 0.37 and a range of 0.31 - 0.47. Prince Edward Island ranked third, has had an average of 0.34, but has had a much wider range than Alberta from 0.19 to 0.46. (See Table 10)

Ontario, perhaps because of its relatively large number of adoptions, has tended to be close to the average for the whole country. It was just above the average in 1961/62, 1966/67 and 1971/72, but in recent years it has been consistently below the average. Ontario's average over the whole period has been 0.21 and its range 0.21 to 0.33. In the case both of British Columbia and Ontario, the variation over the years has been less great than for most other provinces, a reflection perhaps of relatively well developed and dispersed child welfare services throughout

the whole period. Nova Scotia also has had relatively well distributed child welfare agencies throughout the whole period, as has Saskatchewan; both provinces have an average of 0.31 and rank fifth equals, their range too is similar, Nova Scotia 0.19 - 0.38, Saskatchewan 0.18 - 0.37.

Newfoundland was the lowest placed province in 1961/62 and 1966/67, but rose to eighth position overall in the whole period with an average of 0.22 and a range of 0.12 - 0.29. We are left with New Brunswick and Quebec, which appear to be special cases. Not only do these provinces have the lowest average percentage of children adopted, but the range of variation, 0.18 to 0.23 for New Brunswick and 0.17 to 0.20 for Quebec, is also the lowest of all provinces. In my earlier study I found that proportionately fewer Roman Catholic children were adopted in New Brunswick than occur in the child population aged 0-4 years. A similar though less marked situation occurred in Nova Scotia. The reverse situation occurred in Newfoundland however, and in British Columbia successive annual reports during the early 1960's spoke of the difficulty of securing Roman Catholic adoption homes. (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 156-164) A similar situation was revealed by the statistics for Alberta.

In respect to New Brunswick I speculated that the uneven provision of child welfare services (especially in the northern parts of the province) may have led to Roman Catholic children being underpresented in the children adopted. (Hepworth, 1978, p.159) However the persistence of low proportions of the child population being adopted in both Quebec and New Brunswick suggest that religious and cultural factors may have played a major role in these provinces, rather than the absence of a fully developed child welfare service.

So far as the available statistics are concerned we are left with

a situation where on average during the last twenty years Manitoba has more than twice the proportion of completed adoptions as Quebec. Furthermore the four western provinces are ranked first, second, fourth and fifth equals in terms of the average number of children adopted. Given the fact that at least fifty per cent of children in care in the western provinces are of native origin, it might be argued that native children may inflate the total number of children adopted. In British Columbia "special needs" children now represent two thirds of departmental adoption placements, and of these rather more than half are interracial or children other than white. However in 1979/80 this represented only 159 out of a total of 664 placements and 1772 completions, (British Columbia, (a) (6)) so that we cannot be absolutely sure that native children feature prominently in adoptions in western Canada.

In Saskatchewan in 1980/81 though 62.5 per cent of children in care were of native origin, only 40 per cent of the 388 children placed for adoption were of native origin; the comparable proportion in 1976/77 was 35 per cent. (See Tables 11 and 12) (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 118 - 121) This is not the place to debate the rights and wrongs of native adoptions. It appears however that native adoptions do not by themselves account for the relatively high proportion of children being adopted in the western provinces. As already indicated the proportion of relative adoptions has steadily risen in recent years, and the relatively high divorce rates in the western provinces are obviously also relevant to the present discussion.

The Residential Care of Children

Comparison of provincial developments in the residential or institutional care of children presents a number of definitional problems. For the purposes of the Canada Assistance Plan child care institutions

include the range of residential facilities usually found operating in conjunction with provincial child welfare programmes such as receiving homes, group homes and residences for the emotionally disturbed. They also include training schools for juveniles where these are supervised or operated by provincial departments of welfare and where the residents are placed therein under a child welfare authority.

There are however a number of residual problems. Foster homes and group homes may overlap in terms of size, but only the latter are designated as homes for special care for purposes of cost-sharing. There are also interface problems in the areas of corrections and mental health. In the case of the rehabilitation of young offenders, where the programs have remained or fallen under the auspices of corrections, these cannot be cost-shared under CAP. Instead since 1974 on an interim basis there have been funding agreements signed with a number of provinces (Ontario, New Brunswick, the Yukon Territory, Quebec and British Columbia). Where programs for emotionally disturbed children clearly fall under mental health rather than child welfare auspices, they cannot be cost-shared by CAP. This latter factor goes some way towards explaining why Quebec has more residential provisions proportionately than does Ontario, since some facilities in Ontario fall under mental health auspices and are thus not cost-shared. If we take the latest year, for which figures are available, i.e. 1980/81, Ontario and British Columbia both have 2.4 rated (i.e. rated or approved for cost-sharing) beds per 1,000 of the population aged 0-19 years inclusive; New Brunswick has 2.2 rated beds, and Newfoundland 2.6 rated beds. Alberta has 1.9 rated beds. There are therefore some marked similarities between provinces. In the same way there are marked dissimilarities. Manitoba has 5.2 rated beds,

and Quebec 7.4 rated beds, whereas Saskatchewan has 0.9 rated beds. The mean figure in 1980/81 was 3.8. (See Table 13)

Given these similarities and dissimilarities in the basic provision of residential spaces by provinces, it is not surprising that some provinces have much higher proportions of their in-care population living in residential facilities than do others. Again this is a characteristic which with some exceptions persists over time. In the period 1961/62 to 1976/77 Quebec's proportion living in such facilities actually fell from 58.2 per cent to 31.5 per cent of their in-care population, but still remained the highest of all the provinces. Newfoundland and Alberta have consistently had relatively high proportions in residential facilities, between 17 and 24 per cent in the case of Newfoundland and 13 and 16 per cent in the case of Alberta. The proportion has gradually risen in Manitoba and British Columbia. However Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan have had consistently low proportions in such care. (See Table 14)

The above observations are generally borne out when provinces are ranked in terms of numbers of rated beds for cost-sharing, the percentage of children in care in residential facilities, and the percentage of the total child population aged 0-19 years inclusive in care, who are in residential facilities. The provinces with a high proportion of their in-care population in residential facilities tend to rank highest in terms of such children as a proportion of the child population.

Using the Spearman test positive correlation is high for 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77; respectively -0.84, -0.85, -0.83, and -0.84. There is also a positive correlation between number of rated beds and percentage of the in-care population in residential facilities.

Generally also there is a positive correlation between the ranking orders for the various residential measures and per capita spending levels on the child welfare services as a whole, though not at a high level of significance.

Finally there has been a measure of consistency in terms of the proportion of the total child population aged 0-19 years living in residential care. In the four years 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77 the numbers per 1000 have been 2.17, 1.63, 2.22 and 2.22 respectively, Obviously Quebec has been the predominant influence in this consistency, though their numbers of children in such care have fluctuated between 13,152 and 9,836.

Employment in Child Welfare Services

The number of provincial social welfare employees rose by 217 per cent between 1966 and 1978, according to Statistics Canada, and the respective quarterly salaries rose by 932 per cent in current dollars. The overall increase in the provincial social service department expenditures for the same time period was 746 per cent. (Table 15) It is apparent therefore that salaries accelerated at a greater rate than social service department expenditures as a whole. The question in this paper is to what extent increased and perhaps improved, (i.e. better trained or qualified) workers were recruited by the child welfare services, and had an impact on activities and programs in the child welfare area.

The readily available provincial figures on staffing levels, and specifically those in the child welfare area, are rather scanty. However a fairly consistent story is told by provincial department annual reports of staffing increases in the child welfare area. British Columbia, for example, indicates that their child welfare division staff rose from 18 in 1958/59 to 32 in 1968/69 and 41 in 1971/72. (British

Columbia, (c)) Working with provincial estimates Riches found a large increase in staffing in the children and families services area in Saskatchewan, though the rate of increase varied between one time period and another. There were for example 194 workers in 1966/67, 195 in 1970/71, 224 in 1971/72 and 397 in 1976/77. (Riches, 1979, p.118) A similar picture emerges in Newfoundland, where after 1966 it became possible to establish a truly decentralized regional service. Prince Edward Island, which in its annual reports in the early 1960's said repeatedly that it was unable to discharge statutory duties in the child welfare area, after 1966 was able to increase and diversify its staffing and services. A similar story is told in the annual reports of other provinces.

The fullest set of statistics on staffing in the child welfare services occurs in Ontario where there is a consistent series of staffing figures from 1966 onwards, and slightly less detailed figures for the early 1960's. (See Tables 16 and 17) The number of all child welfare positions increased by 59 per cent between 1966 and 1978 (and by 71 per cent between 1966 and 1980). These figures compare with a growth rate for all social welfare positions in Ontario of 461 per cent between 1966 and 1978. (See Table 15) This disparity in growth rates must be set against the fact that by the early 1960's there was already a well developed and long established network of 55 children's aid societies throughout the province. In fact the largest rate of increase is registered in institutional or residential positions from 164 in 1966 to 485 in 1980. The increase in social worker and social work supervisor positions was 58 and 56 per cent respectively between 1966 and 1980, a continuation of a growth trend, discernible since the early 1960's.

It is unfortunately not possible to compare staffing levels in Ontario with those in other provinces, but it is possible to note some marked differences in the activities of the child welfare services and those in other provinces. On a consistent basis Ontario has had a low proportion of the child population in care by comparison with other provinces and ranks tenth in the eight years 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77, 1977/78, 1978/79, 1979/80 and 1980/81. (See Table 4) At the same time my earlier study revealed that turnover of children in care was on a consistently higher level than in all other provinces. (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 123-130) By 1980 there were almost twice as many children in care during the year as were in care at the end of the year. (See Table 18) It may seem that low numbers in care and high or rapid turnover are associated on a self-evident basis, but it is apparent that in a province like Nova Scotia, which has published figures for wards only, (excluding non wards cases) the turnover of wards has been low. (Hepworth, 1978, p.124) In fact the position so far as permanent or Crown wards are concerned in Ontario appears to be the same as in Nova Scotia for wards. In Ontario the proportion of permanent or Crown wards in care declined from 70.4 per cent in 1961/62 to 53.9 per cent in 1976/77 and 52.1 in 1980/81. (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 64-65) The question is whether this change is the result of deliberate policy. The proportion of children immediately admitted directly to permanent or ward status has always been low in Ontario during the last twenty years and has in fact declined from 5.9 per cent in 1961/62 to 1.4 per cent in 1976/77. In fact both legislation and practice seem to have combined to keep children out of care or in care for a very short period of time. Another major change in Ontario as in other provinces has been the fairly rapid reversal in age groups in the in-care

population with the 13-17 year age group now assuming the predominant position previously held by the under 5 age group. (Hepworth, 1978, pp. 81-86)

It should be noted that a great deal of staff activity is required to maintain a high turnover of children, and to this must be added the high rate of activity in the prevention/protection area in Ontario. (Hepworth, 1978, p.41) In 1980 there were 48,489 cases involving 102,177 children receiving these protection services during the year. Of these children, 8,100 had been transferred from in-care services to their own homes, and 8,953 were admitted to care: 27,195 cases involving 52,104 children were closed and 21,195 cases involving 41,120 children were carried forward at the end of the year.

If we look at all this activity in terms of the ratios of the 1,585 social workers (not including social work supervisors) to children, we find that the average social worker dealt with 64.5 children on a protection basis, and 8.2 children on an in-care basis in 1980. Alternatively if we combine numbers of social workers and social work supervisors, and relate the total number of social work positions thus obtained to the number of children receiving protection services in their own homes during the year, those in care during the year, and those in care at the end of the year, we find that social workers are dealing with fewer children in each category. However since 1976 the number of protection children per worker has increased from 50 to 57 and the ratios for children in care have declined only slightly. (See Table 18) It is worth noting at this point that the total child population has almost ceased to decline, so that quite apart from other factors the demographic demand for services is likely to remain constant and may even increase in the near future.

Although the Ontario staffing statistics are available only on a province wide basis, and therefore do not show variations in staffing levels throughout the province, they do appear to reflect some consistent trends, and suggest somewhat lower workloads than in the past. At the same time lower numbers of children in care per worker do mean more time for protection work with children in their own homes, and this might even mean more such children receiving services.

Child Welfare Expenditures

Some of the definitional problems already mentioned in relation to residential and other programs have an impact on any attempt to assemble consistent series of child welfare expenditures at the provincial level. In addition because a large part of child welfare expenditures relates to the physical maintenance of children in care, it is apparent that some expenditures are likely to appear under the heading of social assistance expenditures rather than as child welfare. Unfortunately disaggregation of provincial expenditures on child welfare has not been possible in New Brunswick for 1969/70, 1975/76 and 1980/81. There are also only anomalous figures for 1969/70, 1972/73 and 1975/76 in Quebec apparently due to the inclusion of expenditures on correctional services in some years and their exclusion in others. In the case of Nova Scotia and Ontario where there is municipal involvement only provincial expenditure figures are given, and this serves to depress the figures quite considerably. In Ontario the municipal share of children's aid society expenditures has been twenty per cent since 1965. Similar adjustments may also need to be made at least for some years in Manitoba and British Columbia, where children's aid socieies have been active in parts of the provinces. The three British Columbia societies were closed in 1974. Voluntary donations also still played a role in these four provinces in the early 1960s, and

even today Ontario societies belong to the local United Ways.

Ranking order of spending by provinces suggests that for seven years between 1963/64 and 1980/81, Manitoba, British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec and Ontario in this order have been the highest spending provinces per capita of the child population aged 0-19 years inclusive, followed by Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan with equal average ranking, and New Brunswick. (See Table 20)

In terms of actual per capita expenditures the last year for which all provinces are represented, 1978/79, gives a slightly differing ranking order with Manitoba at the top, New Brunswick at the bottom, and British Columbia falling to sixth position. The range of per capita expenditures in current dollars for 1978/79 was from $18.39 to $71.51, with a mean for the ten provinces of $42.52. It may be noted here that Manitoba over the years has tended to increase the proportion of its children who are in residential facilities, whereas New Brunswick has tended to remain at a fairly low level.

Although the child welfare expenditue figures must be treated with some caution because of the limitations already explained, and because it has been necessary to allocate a proportionate burden of administration expenditures to them, nonetheless the resulting figures do appear to represent in the main consistent series over time.

When we look at total child welfare expenditures, it is apparent that the growth rate since 1966 is much higher in some provinces than in others. Of the provinces with consistent figures the highest rates of growth in current dollars are Alberta (1,015.8 per cent), Newfoundland (966.1 per cent) and Ontario (771.5 per cent). The provinces with the lowest rates of growth are British Columbia (479.3 per cent), Saskatchewan (362.1 per cent), and Prince Edward Island (227.4 per cent). (See Table 21)

If instead we look at the growth rate for expenditures in per capita

constant 1971 dollars, (i.e. population 0-19 years inclusive) the ranking order changes slightly: Nova Scotia (345.1 per cent), Newfoundland (337.7 per cent), Alberta (269.5 per cent), Ontario (244.8 per cent), Saskatchewan (118 per cent), British Columbia (100.9 per cent) and Prince Edward Island (38.3 per cent). (See Table 22)

Generally even so it can be said that the rate of increase in child welfare expenditures has not matched the rate of increase in total provincial social service department expenditures. A partial explanation for this slower rate of growth appears to lie in the fact that child welfare departments were in virtually all cases fully operational when the Canada Assistance Plan was introduced in 1966, so that the impact on staffing levels, though important would not be as significant as for some other newer services. At the same time social assistance rates were improved sharply in the years after 1966, and salary levels also rose sharply. Finally the main demographic reason for increased demand for child welfare services, namely number of illegitimate births, fell after 1970, and the total child population also began to decline.

In 1980/81 Canada spent over half a billion current dollars on child welfare services, of which the federal contribution under the Canada Assistance Plan was $285 millions. In constant dollars the rate of growth is about 150 per cent between 1966 and 1981. Going back to 1963/64 and excluding some anomalous figures for Quebec in 1966 and 1969 the rate of growth in constant dollars is about 600 per cent. (See Table 23)

General Observations

The data reviewed in this paper reveal that it is possible to get some general idea about the operation of child welfare services as a whole and about some of the salient characteristics of particular provincial child welfare services. Although it is possible to draw comparisons

between provinces, this should only be done with great caution. The history, legislation and structure of provincial services differ. Nonetheless it does appear that provincial child welfare services have been subject to similar social, legal, and demographic influences, and have responded in similar ways. The provinces have also all received cost-sharing under the Canada Assistance Plan since 1966, and all provinces have increased their spending in real terms on child welfare services, even though the rates of growth have differed.

What the data reviewed also show are the bureaucratic operations of the child welfare services. They are a reflection of the activities of different organizational arrangements and structures, which represent society's response to the socially defined phenomenon of child neglect and to some extent to the related phenomena of poverty and illegitimacy. The close relationship of child welfare services to the income assistance services and some other social services has been mentioned above. Child welfare services are not therefore to be seen in isolation from other social services. Moreover child neglect ought not to be defined in absolute terms. The growth in the activities of the child welfare services in the last twenty years is associated with demographic developments and the growth in available resources. Child welfare services as we know them today constitute one type of response to the issue of child neglect, but clearly other types of response are also possible and even desirable. A variety of responses harmonized with each other is probably the best answer.

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Table 1
Children in care of Child Welfare Services as a Percentage of all Children in each Province,Territory and Canada[a]
Aged 0-14 years inclusive in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77 - 1980/81

	1961/62	1966/67	1971/72	1976/77	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81
Newfoundland	0.51	0.79	0.91	0.75	0.69	0.71	0.77	0.77
Prince Edward Island	0.90	1.25	1.19	0.91	0.84	0.97	0.96	0.72
Nova Scotia	1.20	1.52	1.74	1.42	1.35	1.31	1.27	1.23
New Brunswick	0.65	0.98	1.48	1.44	1.24	1.20	1.17	1.14
Quebec	1.21	1.91	2.20	2.06	1.98	2.04	2.09	2.14
Ontario	0.70	0.75	0.74	0.63	0.64	0.69	0.72	0.68
Manitoba	0.85	1.25	1.70	1.54	1.39	1.42	1.33	1.49
Saskatchewan	0.79	1.02	1.15	1.10	1.07	1.07	0.98	0.98
Alberta	1.00	1.17	1.56	2.14	2.07	2.42	2.04	1.94
British Columbia	1.12	1.48	1.69	1.62	1.55	1.53	1.53	1.50
Yukon Territories	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.05	3.18	3.17	2.63
Northwest Territories	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3.07	3.10	3.17	2.40
Canada	0.94	1.27	1.44	1.35	1.32	1.38	1.36	1.35

a Exclusive of Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories in 1961/62, 1966/67 and 1976/77

Table 2

Children in Care of Child Welfare Services as a Percentage of all Children in each Province, Territory and Canada[a] Aged 0-19 years in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77 - 1980/81

	1961/62	1966/67	1971/72	1976/77	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81
Newfoundland	0.41	0.62	0.70	0.55	0.51	0.53	0.57	0.56
Prince Edward Island	0.73	0.97	0.89	0.65	0.60	0.69	0.67	0.50
Nova Scotia	0.96	1.18	1.31	1.02	0.97	0.92	0.89	0.86
New Brunswick	0.53	0.75	1.10	1.04	0.89	0.86	0.83	0.80
Quebec	0.97	1.48	1.63	1.43	1.38	1.41	1.45	1.48
Ontario	0.57	0.59	0.56	0.45	0.46	0.49	0.50	0.47
Manitoba	0.69	0.97	1.27	1.11	1.00	1.01	0.95	1.06
Saskatchewan	0.64	0.80	0.86	0.79	0.77	0.76	0.70	0.70
Alberta	0.63	0.93	1.19	1.55	1.49	1.72	1.45	1.38
British Columbia	0.92	1.16	1.27	1.15	1.10	1.08	1.07	1.05
Yukon Territories	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2.28	2.31	2.26	1.85
Northwest Territories	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2.40	2.38	2.39	1.77
Canada	0.76	0.99	1.08	0.96	0.94	0.97	0.95	0.95

a Exclusive of Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77

Table 3

Number of Children in Care of Child Welfare Services in Provinces, Territories and Canada, 1977/78-1980/81

	1977/78	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81
NFLD.	1,274	1,294	1,381	1,350
P.E.I	277	316	305	225
N.S.	2,965 [a]	2,784 [b]	2,635 [c]	2,493 [d]
N.B.	2,360 [e]	2,250 [e]	2,130 [e]	2,028 [e]
QUE.	30,000 [f]	30,000 [f]	30,000 [f]	30,000 [f]
ONT.	13,131 [g]	13,814 [g]	14,008 [g]	13,033 [g]
MAN.	3,638 [h]	3,621 [h]	3,323 [h]	3,621 [h]
SASK.	2,638	2,598	2,372 [i]	2,361 [i]
ALTA.	10,474	12,238	10,405	10,056
B.C.	9,081	8,831	8,735	8,609
N.W.T	500 [f]	503	504	369
YUKON	189	194	190 [f]	150
CAN.	76,527	78,443	75,988	74,295

a wards 2,965
b wards 2,250
c wards 1,840
d wards 1,758
e monthly average
f estimate
g as at December 31, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980
h excludes children in own home
i excludes Department of Northern Saskatchewan

Table 4

Ranking of Provinces by Percentage of Child Population Aged 0-19 years in care of child welfare services in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77-1980/81

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1961/62 Range 0.41-0.97 Canada 0.76	Que. 0.97	N.S. 0.96	B.C. 0.92	Alta. 0.83	P.E.I. 0.73	Man. 0.69	Sask. 0.64	Ont. 0.57	N.B. 0.53	Newf. 0.41
1966/67 Range 0.62-1.48 Canada 0.99	Que. 1.48	N.S. 1.18	B.C. 1.16	Man. 0.97	P.E.I. 0.97	Alta. 0.93	Sask. 0.80	N.B. 0.75	Newf. 0.62	Ont. 0.59
1971/72 Range 0.56-1.63 Canada 1.08	Que. 1.63	N.S. 1.31	B.C. 1.27	Man. 1.27	Alta. 1.19	N.B. 1.10	P.E.I. 0.89	Sask. 0.86	Newf. 0.70	Ont. 0.56
1976/77 Range 0.45-1.55 Canada 0.96	Alta. 1.55	Que. 1.43	B.C. 1.15	Man. 1.11	N.B. 1.04	N.S. 1.02	Sask. 0.79	P.E.I. 0.65	Newf. 0.55	Ont. 0.45
1977/78 Range 0.46-2.40 Canada 0.94	Alta. 1.49	Que. 1.38	B.C. 1.10	Man. 1.00	N.S. 0.97	N.B. 0.89	Sask. 0.77	P.E.I. 0.60	Newf. 0.51	Ont. 0.46
1978/79 Range 0.49-2.38 Canada 0.97	Alta. 1.72	Que. 1.41	B.C. 1.08	Man. 1.01	N.S. 0.92	N.B. 0.86	Sask. 0.76	P.E.I. 0.69	Newf. 0.53	Ont. 0.49
1979/80 Range 0.50-2.39 Canada 0.95	Alta. 1.45	Que. 1.45	B.C. 1.07	Man. 0.95	N.S. 0.89	N.B. 0.83	Sask. 0.70	P.E.I. 0.67	Newf. 0.57	Ont. 0.50
1980/81 Range 0.47-1.85 Canada 0.95	Que. 1.48	Alta. 1.38	Man. 1.06	B.C. 1.05	N.S. 0.86	N.B. 0.80	Sask. 0.70	Newf. 0.56	P.E.I. 0.50	Ont. 0.47
Average Rank Order	Que. 1.50	Alta. 2.62	B.C. 3.12	N.S. 4.00	Man. 4.12	N.B. 6.50	Sask. 7.12	P.E.I. 7.25	Newf. 9.00	Ont. 9.75
Average Percentage	1.40	1.32	1.10	1.01	1.01	0.85	0.75	0.71	0.56	0.51
Range	0.97- 1.63	0.83- 1.72	0.92- 1.27	0.86- 1.31	0.69- 1.27	0.53- 1.10	0.64- 0.86	0.50- 0.97	0.41- 0.70	0.45- 0.59

Table 5

Number of Completed Adoptions by Province and Percentage of Population Aged 0-14 years Adopted in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77-1979/80

	1961/62		1966/67		1971/72		1976/77		1977/78		1978/79		1980/81	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newfoundland	222	0.14	275	0.14	465	0.24	471	0.25	532	0.29	465	0.25	410	0.23
Prince Edward Island	72	0.19	117	0.31	144	0.41	138	0.42	152	0.46	90	0.28	109	0.34
Nova Scotia	478	0.19	561	0.22	723	0.30	855	0.38	714	0.33	769	0.36	743	0.36
New Brunswick	399	0.18	448	0.20	424	0.21	438	0.23	408	0.21	426	0.23	360	0.20
Quebec	3174	0.17	3560	0.18	4118	0.23	3098	0.20	2583	0.17	2356	0.16	2648	0.19
Ontario [a]	5159	0.26	6511	0.30	7245	0.33	5105	0.25	5077	0.25	5029	0.25	4020	0.21
Manitoba [b]	665	0.22	962	0.31	1346	0.47	1489	0.56	1236	0.47	1122	0.44	1030	0.41
Saskatchewan	555	0.18	866	0.27	961	0.34	907	0.37	868	0.35	861	0.35	697	0.29
Alberta	1447	0.31	1624	0.32	2531	0.47	1933	0.38	1923	0.38	1963	0.39	1697	0.33
British Columbia	1486	0.29	2207	0.38	2306	0.38	1945	0.33	1673	0.29	1405	0.24	1772	0.31
Total	13657	0.22	17131	0.26	20163	0.32	16379	0.28	15166[c]	0.26	14486[c]	0.25	13486[c]	0.24

a Calendar year
b Vital statistics figures
c Totals differ from Tables 6, 7, 8 due to inclusion of Manitoba vital statistics figures

Table 6

Number of Completed Adoptions by Province and Type of Placement in 1977/78

1977/78

	Child Welfare Agencies		Parents or Relatives		Private		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newfoundland	175	32.9	276	51.9			81	15.2	532	100.0
Prince Edward Island	84	55.3			68	44.7			152	100.0
Nova Scotia	322	45.1	357	50.0	35	[illegible].9			714	100.0
New Brunswick	192	47.1			216	52.9			408	100.0
Quebec	646	25.0	1,558	60.3	379	14.7			2,583	100.0
Ontario	1,739	34.3	2,735	53.9	603	11.8			5,077	100.0
Manitoba [a]	548	62.1	264	29.9	43	4.9	27	3.1	882	100.0
Saskatchewan	433	49.9	380	43.8	55	6.3			868	100.0
Alberta	921	47.9	1,002	52.1					1,923	100.0
British Columbia	696	41.6	919	[illegible]9	58	3.5			1,673	100.0
Total	5,831	39.4	7,465	50.4	1,457	9.8	59	0.4	14,812	100.0

Table 7

Number of Completed Adoptions by Province and Type of Placement in 1978/79

1978/79

	Child Welfare Agencies		Parents or Relatives		Private		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newfoundland	194	41.7	246	52.9			25	5.4	465	100.0
Prince Edward Island	45	50.0			45	50.0			90	100.0
Nova Scotia	338	44.0	382	49.7	49	6.3			769	100.0
New Brunswick	162	38.0			264	62.0			426	100.0
Quebec	553	23.5	1,549	65.7	252	10.7	2	0.1	2,356	100.0
Ontario	1,514	30.1	2,849	56.7	666	13.2			5,029	100.0
Manitoba	477	58.6	275	33.7	45	5.5	18	2.2	815	100.0
Saskatchewan	426	49.5	332	38.6	103	11.9			861	100.0
Alberta	905	46.1	1,058	53.9					1,963	100.0
British Columbia	589	41.9	767	54.6	49	4.2			1,405	100.0
Total	5,203	36.9	7,458	52.6	1,473	10.4	45	0.1	14,179	100.0

Table 8

Number of Completed Adoptions by Province and Type of Placement in 1979/80

	Child Welfare Agencies		Parents or Relatives		Private		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newfoundland	195	47.6	192	46.8	-		23	5.6	410	100.0
Prince Edward Island	74	67.9	-		35	32.1	-		109	100.0
Nova Scotia	296	39.8	415	55.9	32	4.3	-		743	100.0
New Brunswick	155	43.1	-		205	56.1	-		360	100.0
Quebec	575	21.7	1,796	67.8	277	10.5	-		2,648	100.0
Ontario	1,248	31.0	2,147	53.4	625	15.6	-		4,020	100.0
Manitoba [a]	507	69.3	206	28.1	13	1.8	6	0.8	732**	100.0
Saskatchewan	390	56.0	235	33.7	72	10.3	-		697	100.0
Alberta	778	45.8	919	54.2	-		-		1,697	100.0
British Columbia	736	41.5	971	54.8	65	3.7	-		1,772	100.0
Total	4,954	37.6	6,881	52.2	1,324	10.0	29	0.2	13,188	100.0

** child welfare figures

a Differs from figures in Table 5 due to use of child welfare figures

Table 9

Adoption Completions in Canada as a Percentage of the Child Population Aged Under One Year, under Five Years and under 15 Years in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, and 1976/77-1979/80

	A No. of Completed Adoptions	B All Children Under 1 Year (thousands)	C All Children Under 5 years (thousands)	D All Children Under 15 years (thousands)	A as % of B	A as % of B	A as % of B
1961/62	13,657	475.7	2,256.4	6,191.9	2.9	0.6	0.22
1966/67	17,131	387.7	2,197.4	6,591.7	4.4	0.8	0.26
1971/72	20,163	360.3	1,816.2	6,380.0	5.6	1.1	0.32
1976/77	16,379	347.7	1,732.0	5,896.2	4.7	0.9	0.27
1977/78	15,166	361.8	1,745.3	5,811.0	4.2	0.9	0.26
1978/79	14,486	356.5	1,748.6	5,685.9	4.1	0.8	0.25
1979/80	13,486	361.5	1,768.9	5,576.6	3.7	0.8	0.24

Table 10

Rank Ordering of 10 Provinces by Percentage of Population Aged 0-14 years Adopted in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976 - 1979/80

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1961/62										
Range 0.12-0.31	Alta.	B.C.	Ont.	Man.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Sask.	Que.	Newf.
Mean 0.22	0.31	0.29	0.26	0.22	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.17	0.12
1966/67										
Range 0.14-0.38	B.C.	Alta.	P.E.I.	Man.	Ont.	Sask.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Newf.
Mean 0.26	0.38	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.30	0.27	0.22	0.20	0.18	0.14
1971/72										
Range 0.21-0.47	Man.	Alta.	P.E.I.	B.C.	Sask.	Ont.	N.S.	Newf.	Que.	N.B.
Mean 0.32	0.47	0.47	0.41	0.38	0.34	0.33	0.30	0.24	0.23	0.21
1976/77										
Range 0.20-0.56	Man.	P.E.I.	Alta.	N.S.	Sask.	B.C.	Newf.	Ont.	N.B.	Que.
Mean 0.28	0.56	0.42	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.33	0.25	0.25	0.23	0.20
1977/78										
Range 0.17-0.47	Man.	P.E.I.	Alta.	Sask.	N.S.	B.C.	Newf.	Ont.	N.B.	Que.
Mean 0.26	0.47	0.46	0.38	0.35	0.33	0.29	0.29	0.25	0.21	0.17
1978/79										
Range 0.16-0.44	Man.	Alta.	N.S.	Sask.	P.E.I.	Newf.	Ont.	B.C.	N.B.	Que.
Mean 0.24	0.44	0.39	0.36	0.35	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.23	0.16
1979/80										
Range 0.19-0.41	Man.	N.S.	P.E.I.	Alta.	B.C.	Sask.	Newf.	Ont.	N.B.	Que.
Mean 0.24	0.41	0.36	0.34	0.33	0.31	0.29	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.19
	Man.	Alta.	P.E.I.	B.C.	N.S.	Sask.	Ont.	Newf.	N.B.	Que.
Average Ranking Order	1.71	2.29	3.29	4.57	4.57	5.29	6.14	7.86	8.71	9.57
Average Percentage	0.41	0.37	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.26	0.22	0.21	0.19
Range	0.22-0.56	0.31-0.47	0.19-0.46	0.29-0.38	0.19-0.38	0.18-0.37	0.21-0.33	0.12-0.29	0.18-0.23	0.17-0.20

Table 11

Ethnic Status of All Children in Care in Saskatchewan, 1977/78 - 1980/81

	Treaty Indian		Indian		Metis		Sub-total		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1977/78	278	10.6	517	19.6	750	28.4	1545	58.6	1093	41.4	2638	100.0
	Status Indian (confirmed)		Status Indian (unconfirmed)		Metis & Non status Indian							
1978-79	469	19.6	303	12.7	669	27.9	1441	60.2	954	39.8	2395	100.0
1979/80	564	23.8	247	10.4	629	26.5	1440	60.7	932	39.3	2372	100.0
1980/81	548	25.3	170	7.9	636	29.3	1354	62.5	811	37.5	2165	100.0

Table 12

Children in Saskatchewan Placed for Adoption by Age and Ethnic Origin, 1977/78-1980/81

	Age Group 0-6 Years			6-10 years			Over 10 years			Total			
	Indian	Metis	Other	Indian	Metis	Other	Indian	Metis	Other	Indian	Metis	Other	Total
1977/78	66	45	274	19	5	11	4	3	6	89	53	291	433
										20.6	12.2	67.2	100.0
1978/79	87	42	247	11	3	11	5	5	15	103	50	273	426
										24.2	11.7	64.1	100.0
1979/80	39	37	231	22	10	7	4	3	2	65	50	240	355
										18.3	14.1	67.6	100.0
1980/81	66	50	223	15	13	7	6	4	4	87	67	234	388
										22.4	17.3	60.3	100.0

Table 13

Number of rated [a] beds in Child Care institutions per thousand of population aged 0 - 19 years in 1968, 1969. 1972, 1977 and 1980

	1968	1969	1972	1977	1980
Newfoundland	0.3	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.6
Prince Edward Island	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.0	1.3
Nova Scotia	1.9	2.6	0.9	3.2	3.5
New Brunswick	0.7	1.0	1.8	1.9	2.2
Quebec	5.4	4.4	6.2	7.5	7.4
Ontario	0.8	0.9	1.2	2.2	2.4
Manitoba	0.9	1.0	3.8	3.4	5.2
Saskatchewan	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9
Alberta	1.5	1.3	1.5	2.2	1.9
British Columbia	0.7	1.1	1.7	2.8	2.4
Yukon Territories			7.6	9.5	10.1
Northwest Territories				8.6	9.6
Canada	2.2	2.1	2.7	3.7	3.8

a Rated for cost-sharing as Homes for Special Care under the Canada Assistance Plan

Table 14

Number of children located in residential institutions and group homes as percentage of children in care by province in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72 and 1976/77

	1961/62		1966/67		1971/72		1976/77	
	No.	% of children in care	No.	% of children in care	No.	% of children in care	No.	% of children in care
Newfoundland	167	17.2	379	24.0	300	17.0	337	24.4
Prince Edward Island	34	10.1	10	2.1	13	7.7	12[b]	4.0
Nova Scotia	168	5.5	194	5.0	140	3.3	167	5.4
New Brunswick	137	9.2	74	3.4	187[b]	6.2	209	7.6
Quebec	13,152[a]	58.2	10,104	27.3	12,564	31.9	9,836	31.5
Ontario	1,582	11.3	1,548	9.4	2,234	13.7	2,952	22.8
Manitoba	100	3.9	325[b]	8.5	390[b]	8.0	939	23.4
Saskatchewan	184[b]	7.4	228	6.9	291	9.0	162	6.0
Alberta	746	15.9	791	13.3	1,078	13.4	1,705	16.3
British Columbia	375[b]	6.6	688	8.1	1,583	15.4	1,874	19.8
Total	16,545	28.8	13,701	17.2	18,783	20.6	18,193	23.2
Percentage of 0-19 year age group	2.17		1.63		2.22		2.22	

(a) includes institutions for unmarried mothers
(b) estimate
(c) includes foster homes with 4 or more children

Table 15

Comparison of rates of growth in provincial and territorial social service department expenditures, number of salary earners, and cost of salaries between 1966, 1972 and 1978.

	Total S.S. Dept. Expenditures			Increase in No. of Salary Earners			Increase in cost of Salaries		
	1966	1972	1978	1966	1972	1978	1966	1972	1978
Newfoundland	100.0	195.5	400.9	100.0	187.3	358.0	100.0	320.5	1,258.2
Prince Edward Island	100.0	152.6	381.1	100.0	218.4	287.3	100.0	420.3	1,271.1
Nova Scotia	100.0	408.5	1,156.6	100.0	188.9	163.9	100.0	320.4	484.4
New Brunswick	100.0	367.4	1,069.5	100.0	331.6	410.3	100.0	505.4	1,205.4
Quebec	100.0	300.1	811.8	100.0	275.0	292.4	100.0	448.2	970.9
Ontario	100.0	414.2	1,208.0	100.0	178.6	561.0	100.0	286.6	1,634.5
Manitoba	100.0	301.8	586.8	100.0	122.6	217.8	100.0	203.6	659.3
Saskatchewan	100.0	224.9	977.6	100.0	96.7	136.4	100.0	152.6	463.6
Alberta	100.0	283.5	694.2	100.0	161.5	326.9	100.0	276.4	1,098.5
British Columbia	100.0	236.6	769.8	100.0	n.a.	n.a.	100.0	n.a.	n.a.
Northwest Territories & Yukon Territories	100.0	601.9	1,437.3	100.0	910.0	1,615.0	100.0	1,486.5	3,578.2
Canada	100.0	305.8	846.4	100.0	200.2	317.0	100.0	325.4	1,032.2

Source: Provincial and territorial public accounts, and Statistics Canada, Employees of Provincial Governments, Catalogue 72-077 Quarterly, July-September 1966, July-September 1972 and July-September 1978

Table 16

Number and type of positions in Ontario Children's Aid Societies between 1960 and 1980

	Social Worker	Clerical	Total
1960	863	383½	1,246½
1961	887½	393½	1,281
1962	918	391½	1,309½
1963	949	404	1,353
1964	1,000	410½	1,410½
1965	1,116½	468½	1,585

	Social Worker	Social Work Supervisor	Administration	Institutional	Clerical	Other	Total
1966	1,001½	170½	98	164	481½	94	2,009½
1967	1,141½	204	106	188½	534	95½	2,269½
1968	1,241	226½	117	237½	592	99½	2,513½
1969	1,235	214	113½	253	590	95½	2,501
1970	1,262½	220½	117½	295½	596	128½	2,620½
1971	1,281	220½	116	332½	605½	129	2,684½
1972	1,293½	209	120	348½	601½	122½	2,695
1973	1,301	215	117	352	609	115	2,710
1974	1,335½	221	123½	424	627	109	2,839½
1975	1,443.9	231.72	128.5	561.17	665.86	138.25	3,169.4
1976	1,435.15	224.12	130.0	533.15	666.31	138.95	3,127.68
1977	1,420.29	247.02	131.70	523.13	663.68	170.89	3,156.71
1978	1,445.95	251.20	139.30	491.63	668.24	199.63	3,195.90
1979	1,508.95	256.20	141.40	475.13	677.10	225.03	3,283.81
1980	1,584.82	266.77	142.0	485.17	702.1	247.05	3,427.91

Table 17

Growth of Positions in Ontario Child Welfare Services Between 1966 and 1980 (1966-100)

	Social Worker	Social Work Supervisor	Administration	Institutional	Clerical	Other	Total
1966	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
1967	113.78	119.65	108.00	114.94	110.90	101.60	112.93
1968	123.91	132.84	119.39	144.82	122.95	105.85	125.08
1969	123.32	125.51	115.82	154.27	122.53	101.60	124.46
1970	126.06	129.33	119.90	180.18	123.78	136.70	130.41
1971	127.91	129.33	118.37	202.74	125.75	137.23	133.59
1972	129.16	122.58	122.45	212.50	124.92	130.32	134.11
1973	129.91	126.10	119.39	214.63	126.48	122.34	134.86
1974	133.37	129.62	126.02	258.54	130.22	115.96	141.29
1975	144.17	135.91	131.12	342.18	138.29	147.07	157.72
1976	143.30	131.45	132.65	325.09	138.38	147.82	155.64
1977	141.82	144.88	134.39	318.98	137.84	181.80	157.09
1978	144.38	147.33	142.14	299.77	138.78	212.37	159.04
1979	150.67	150.27	144.29	289.71	140.62	239.39	163.65
1980	158.24	156.46	144.90	295.84	145.82	262.82	170.59

Table 18

Social Work Positions in Ontario Children's Aid Societies in Relation to the Number of Children receiving Protection Services in their own homes or in care between 1960 and 1980.

	(a) Social Workers	(b) Social Work Supervisors	(c) Total of Social Work Positions	(d) Children receiving Protection Services During Year	(e) Children in care During Year	(f) Children in Care at End of Year
1960			863.0	52,956	21.803	14,188
1961			887.5	54,086	21,898	14,041
1966	1,001.5	170.5	1,172.0	67,819	26,342	16,487
1971	1,281.0	220.5	1,501.5	77,956	28.906	16,319
1976	1,435.0	224.0	1,659.0	83,056	24,595	12,962

	(g) (c) as ratio of (d)	(h) (c) as ratio of (e)	(i) (c) as ratio of (f)
1960	61.4	25.3	16.4
1961	60.9	24.7	15.8
1966	57.9	22.5	14.1
1971	51.9	19.2	10.9
1976	50.1	14.8	7.8
1980	57.0	14.4	7.3

Table 19

Protection work caseload in Ontario Child Welfare Services in 1977-1980

	No. of Cases	Children Involved	No. of Cases	Children Involved	No. of Cases	Children Involved	No. of Cases	Children Involved
Carried over	16,050	36,599	18,226	39,531	20,696	42,677	22,060	43,851
New cases	14,023	28,290	16,631	32,270	17,697	33,685	18,121	34,095
Reopened cases that were opened in former years	7,244	16,190	8,223	17,766	8,308	15,938	8,308	16,131
Children transferred to own home from care of society		7,130		7,261		7,580		8,100
Total open cases during year	37,317	88,209	43,080	96,768	46,481	99,880	48,489	102,177
Children transferred to In-Care service from protection		8,450		9,219		9,219		8,953
Cases closed	19,091	40,028	22,384	44,852	24,422	46,791	27,195	52,104
Total cases and children at end of year	18,226	39,731	20,696	42,697	22,059	43,870	21,294	41,120
Serv. to Unmarried Parents Cases	2,447		2,148					
Brief Services			32,990		35,976		46,165	

Table 20

Provincial Child Welfare Expenditures (adjusted [a] figures) per capita of population aged 0-19 years inclusive 1971

($ constant)

	1963/64	1966/67	1969/70	1972/73	1975/76	1978/79	1980/81
Newfoundland	3.45	6.29	8.84	13.37	20.24	22.26	27.53
Prince Edward Island	4.96	7.45	10.00	13.88	9.45	13.64	10.30
Nova Scotia	4.22	3.90	11.90	15.05	13.25	15.00	17.36
New Brunswick	1.80	4.07	n.a.	8.03	n.a.	10.26	n.a.
Quebec [b]	2.72	19.88	37.26	10.47	15.68	27.68	31.09
Ontario	3.24	8.02	13.46	14.59	18.81	23.41	27.65
Manitoba	7.32	8.79	12.24	20.87	39.66	39.88	43.14
Saskatchewan	6.05	8.23	6.61	11.77	12.71	14.00	17.94
Alberta	7.46	9.47	13.55	13.82	22.19	22.67	35.99
British Columbia	8.33	15.31	23.58	26.08	18.69	20.91	30.76
Canada [b]	4.20	12.12	21.80 [c]	14.42	18.69 [c]	23.71	29.48

a Proportionate share of administrative costs included in child welfare expenditures
b Includes some anomalous figures for Quebec
c Excludes New Brunswick

Table 21
a
Provincial Child Welfare Expenditures (Adjusted) Percentage of Expenditures in 1966/67 ($ current)

	Newfoundland	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia
1963/64	49.4	60.6	100.6	41.1	11.9	34.1	72.5	65.6	68.9	44.8
1966/67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1969/70	161.0	149.0	338.0		205.2	195.9	137.1	88.6	167.9	185.6
1972/73	271.3	227.2	474.4	236.2	61.7	239.3	255.1	161.9	194.6	240.8
1975/76	543.5	206.1	549.4		117.4	414.0	636.4	221.4	425.5	240.7
1978/79	731.4	365.7	753.6	488.3	247.5	627.2	773.0	302.2	565.6	325.3
1980/81	1,066.1	327.4	1,020.7		321.6	871.5	971.9	462.1	1,115.8	579.3

a Proportionate share of administrative costs included in child welfare expenditures

Table 22

Provincial Child Welfare Expenditures (Adjusted)[a] per capita of population aged 0-19 years as Percentage of Expenditures in 1966/67 ($ constant)

	Newfoundland	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Canada
1963/64	54.8	66.6	108.2	44.2	13.7	40.4	83.3	73.5	78.8	54.4	34.7
1966/67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1969/70	140.5	134.2	305.1	n.a.	187.4	167.8	139.2	80.3	143.1	154.0	179.9
1972/73	212.6	186.3	385.9	197.3	52.7	181.9	237.4	143.0	145.9	170.3	119.0
1975/76	321.8	126.8	339.7	n.a.	78.9	234.5	451.2	154.4	234.3	122.1	154.2
1978/79	353.9	183.1	384.6	252.1	139.2	291.9	453.7	170.1	239.4	136.6	195.6
1980/81	437.7	138.3	445.1	n.a.	156.4	344.8	490.8	218.0	369.5	200.9	243.2

a Proportionate share of administrative costs included in child welfare expenditures

Table 23

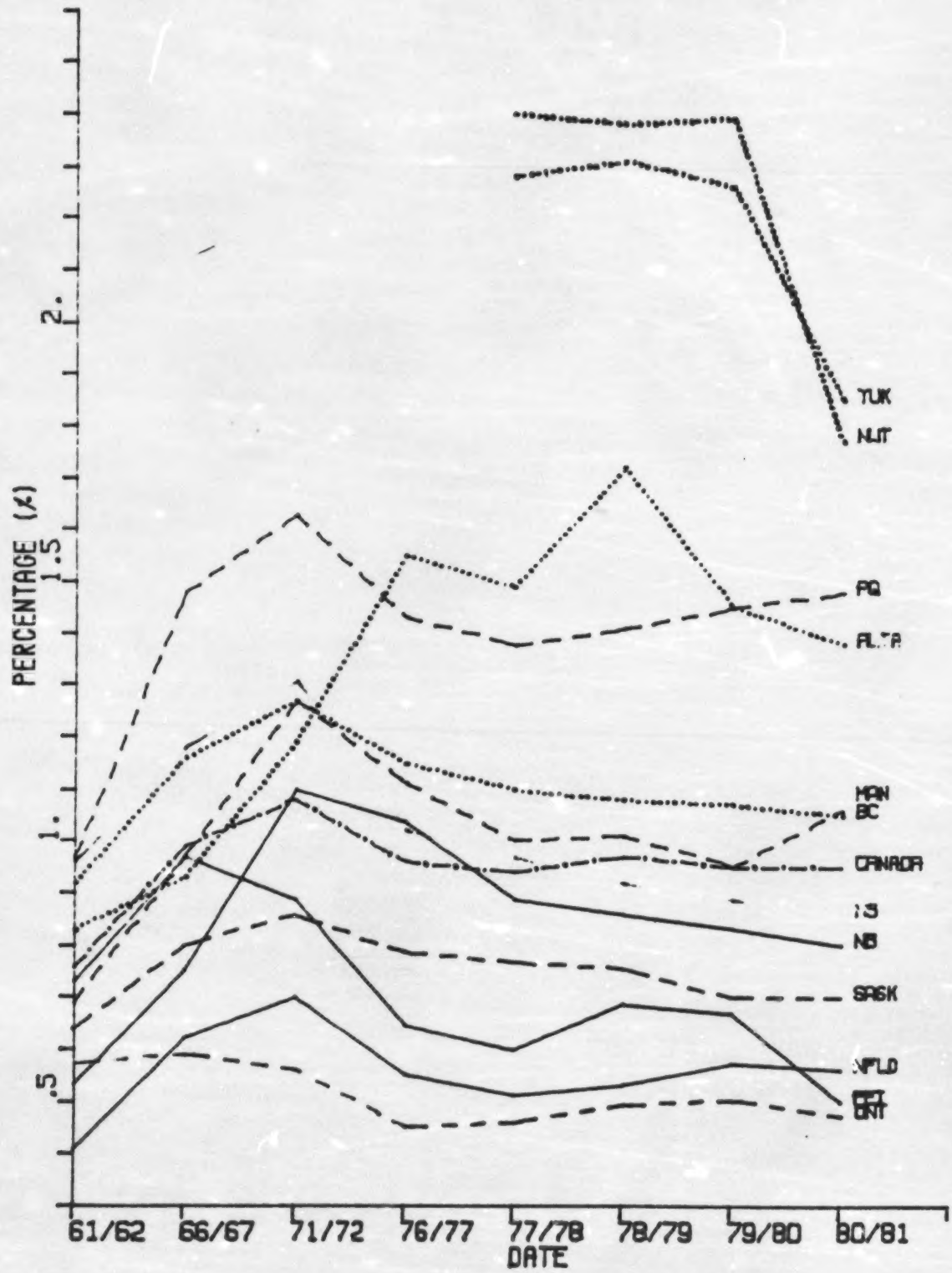
Provincial Child Welfare Expenditures (Adjusted)[a] between 1963/64 and 1980/81 (Current Dollars)

	1963/64	1966/67	1969/70	1972/73	1975/76	1978/79	1980/81
Newfoundland	662.9	1,342.4	2,160.8	3,642.3	7,296.2	9,818.6	14,311.0
Prince Edward Island	185.3	305.7	455.5	694.4	630.1	1,118.0	1,001.0
Nova Scotia	1,081.7	1,075.0	3,633.1	5,100.1	5,905.9	8,100.9	10,972.1
New Brunswick	405.1	985.3	n.a.	2,326.8	n.a.	4,811.7	n.a.
Quebec	5,085.4	42,612.2	87,424.2	26,300.2	50,034.2	105,465.7	137,055.8
Ontario	6,459.0	18,953.9	37,128.4	45,361.5	78,466.5	118,880.1	165,188.0
Manitoba	2,394.5	3,301.4	4,524.6	8,421.2	21,009.3	25,521.0	32,087.5
Saskatchewan	1,864.5	2,840.6	2,516.3	4,599.0	6,288.6	8,584.1	13,125.4
Alberta	3,515.1	5,101.8	8,564.2	9,926.7	21,706.1	28,858.3	56,928.1
British Columbia	4,241.7	9.459.8	17,561.6	22,783.0	22,771.4	30,768.9	54,802.6
	25,895.2	85,978.1	163,968.7	129,155.2	214,108.3	341,927.3	485,471.5

a Proportionate share of administrative costs included in child welfare expenditures

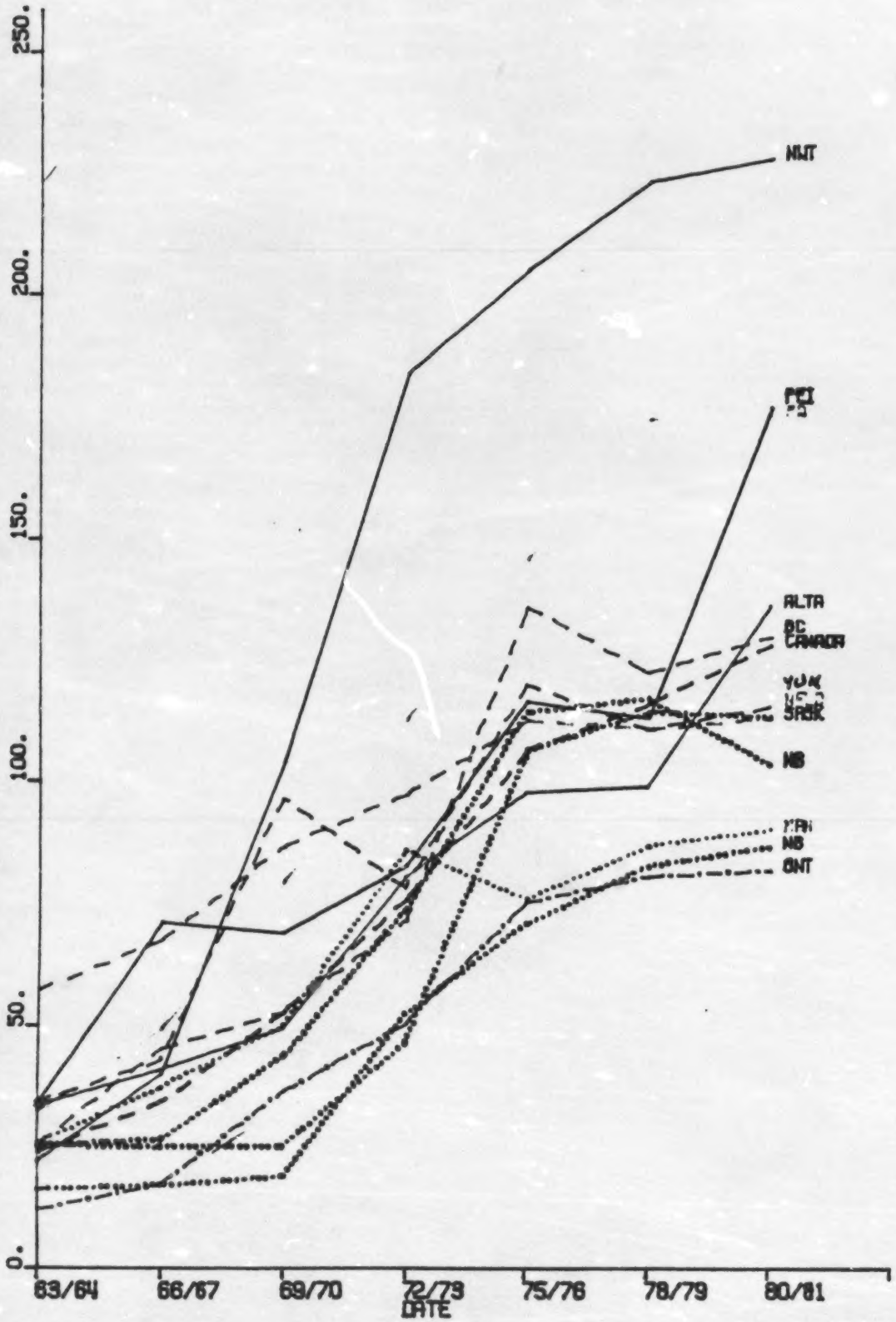
Graph 2

Children in Care of Child Welfare Services as a Percentage of all Children in each Province, Territory and Canada: Aged 0-19 years in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77 - 1980/81



Graph 3

Provincial Social Service Department Expenditures in Per Capita Dollars 1963/64-1980/81 (constant $ 1971)



Graph 1

Children in care of Child Welfare Services as a Percentage of all Children in each Province, Territory and Canada: Aged 0-14 years inclusive in 1961/62, 1966/67, 1971/72, 1976/77 - 1980/81